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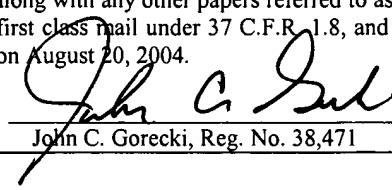
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Alfredo Herrera
Serial No.: 10/771,596
Filed: February 4, 2004
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATING THE DESIGN OF
PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC DEVICES

Examiner: unknown
Art Unit: 2825
Attorney Docket No.: 16550ROUS01U

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document, along with any other papers referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 20, 2004.


John C. Gorecki, Reg. No. 38,471

Commissioner for Patents
Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION are reflected beginning on page 2 of this paper;

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT are reflected beginning on page 10 of this paper;

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 11 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 14 of this paper.

APPENDIX A containing a marked up version of the amended portions of the specification is attached hereto starting at page 15 of this paper;

APPENDIX B containing a marked-up version of the original abstract is attached hereto starting at page 23 of this paper.